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Being able to live in the United States is a goal for many people and families in foreign countries. Receiving authorization to enter the U.S. is only the first step in the immigration process, and many immigrants will plan to establish themselves as permanent residents and receive a Green Card. After living in the United States for multiple years, immigrants may then wish to take the next step and become U.S. citizens. In these cases, a person will want to understand the qualifications they will need to meet and the steps they will need to take to gain the rights and benefits of citizenship. A lawyer who understands immigration laws can ensure that immigrants complete the naturalization process successfully. The Vasquez Law Firm, PLLC offers dedicated guidance and representation throughout the immigration process, and we work to ensure that our clients are able to address any issues or difficulties they may encounter as they establish their lives in the United States. Our attorneys have a combined total of more than 35 years of legal experience, and we work to ensure that immigrants can address any and all immigration matters, from the initial application for a visa to attaining U.S. citizenship. Becoming a Citizen Through Naturalization Citizenship provides people with many rights and benefits. Some of the most important of these include the right to maintain residence in the United States without the possibility of deportation, as well as the ability to sponsor family members for immigration through different types of family-based visas. A citizen will also be able to vote in U.S. elections or run for elected office, travel internationally with a U.S. passport, hold certain types of jobs with the federal government, obtain government benefits, and apply for scholarships or grants when pursuing an education. The process of applying for citizenship is known as "naturalization." To be eligible for naturalization, a person must meet a number of requirements, including: They must be at least 18 years old. They must be a lawful permanent resident with a valid Green Card. They must have maintained a continuous residence in the United States for at least five years. Spouses of U.S. citizens can qualify for naturalization if they have lived in the U.S. for at least three years. During the five years before applying for citizenship, they must not have been outside the United States for more than 30 months. Spouses of U.S. citizens must not have been outside the United States for more than 18 months in the past three years. Exceptions to this requirement may be available for people who have served on a U.S. vessel, worked for the U.S. government, or served as a priest or minister for a religious organization. They must not have taken a single trip outside the United States that lasted for more than one year. They must be able to speak, read, and write basic English. Exceptions to this requirement may apply for people over the age of 50 who have been lawful permanent residents for at least 20 years, people over the age of 55 who have been lawful permanent residents for at least 15 years, or people with certain types of disabilities. They must be able to pass a civics test demonstrating a knowledge of U.S. history and government. Exceptions to this requirement may apply for people with certain types of disabilities. They must be of good moral character, be willing to support the U.S. Constitution, and be willing to perform any legally-required military or civilian duties to the United States. A person can apply to become a U.S. citizen by submitting an Application for Naturalization (Form N-400) to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) along with certain types of required documents. If an application is accepted, an interview will be scheduled with USCIS, and the person will be required to take English and civics tests. Once naturalization is approved, the person will take an oath of allegiance to the United States, and they will be recognized as a U.S. citizen. Contact Our Lake Mary Naturalization Lawyers Our attorneys can help you understand the requirements you will need to meet during the naturalization process, and we will ensure that you complete the proper steps to become a U.S. citizen. To get legal help with these or other immigration matters, contact our office at 407-955-5000 and schedule your free consultation today. We work with clients in Orange County and the surrounding areas, including Clermont, St. Petersburg, Apopka, Winter Park, Lake Mary, Leesburg Bay Lake, Casselberry, Windermere, Saint Cloud, Daytona Beach, Tampa, Altamonte Springs, Sanford, Winter Garden, Lake Buena Vista, Ocoee, Winter Springs, Oviedo, and Kissimmee. "Prior to deciding to utilize the legal services of Karen-Lee Pollak, I interviewed 11 different lawyers in the Dallas area to understand who was the most knowledgeable of immigration and naturalization laws. I strongly felt Karen was the most capable and professional of the individuals I examined. Karen provided invaluable support along the path towards receiving my American citizenship, both legally and personally. If I had a question or concern, Karen was always available to listen and to give sound council. Rather than giving up, Karen believed in me and continued to file for appeals, even in the face of adversity. Without any hesitation, I strongly recommend to anybody, Karen Lee Pollak for their naturalization needs." American Citizen "It is without reservation that I provide this reference for Karen Pollak. Her integrity, attention to detail, creativity, competence, and personal service are unmatched by almost all immigration attorneys. I have personally observed her counsel and guide many institutions and individuals through employment visas, religious visas, green cards, and citizenship. I have also witnessed her work remedying potential disasters created by less skilled and conscientious immigration practitioners. You would be hard pressed to find a more competent and caring counselor for an immigration issue." Former Partner at Bracewell & Giuliani LLP "In 2005, I sought a H-1B visa for an experienced publishing executive in the UK I had identified as a key to my company's future growth. Our petition, submitted by another immigration attorney, did not pass muster and was denied. Discouraged, but still determined, I met with Ms. Pollak. Her confidence, command of the immigration process, and no-nonsense approach was refreshing. I am pleased to say our 2006 application was successful. We are now in the process of using Ms. Pollak to obtain my key employee's green card." QuestCorp Media Group "Our road with Pollak immigration and Karen Pollak started in about 2018 when we had some problems with issuing our green cards, and Karen Pollak managed to navigate a complex part of the immigration law that's not well known and successfully got our green cards for us. Anyway, a number of years later, we are now proud citizens of the United States, and my thanks to Karen Pollak and Pollak Immigration for the excellent years of work and service that they have provided my family and I, without which we would probably not have got to where we are today." Client of Pollak PLLC "Our team needed help from Pollak Immigration attorneys with H1B visas, H1B transfers, and EB2 visas. Before we reached out to Pollak Immigration attorneys, we faced the immigration challenges of our employees under this particular classification being deported. The outcome of our cases has been successful, and it's been really exciting to see how something like this can change an employee's experience. I believe it is due to the thorough nature of Karen and her team, just clearly outlining the needs for these particular classifications to be approved. I would tell someone considering Pollak Immigration Attorneys not to hesitate with partnering with this team." HR Manager, All First Financial Advisors "The specific need or the type of visa I needed was a permanent resident or green card. The first challenge I faced before I reached Karen Pollak was that I entered the US on a tourist visa. This was not the right way to do it because I was planning to spend a lot of time, so I tried to reach other lawyers, and I didn't like the way the interviews went. It seemed like we were another person or another customer from the many they had, and we didn't feel a personalized relationship, and honestly, we didn't think it was going to work. So a friend of ours recommended Karen, at Pollak Immigration and everything was perfect, everything ran very smoothly, and after we reached Karen, it was very clear, the steps we needed to take. The outcome, was incredible as today we have our permanent residence or the green card, and we are also recommending Karen to another friend and family that need to put in order their immigration." Entrepreneur "I am a U.S. citizen, and my parents are from Mexico. They moved to the US to be able to get their green cards. It wasn't until we found Karen and her team that we had an amazing experience. My parents were able to get their green card. I couldn't be more thankful to Pollak Immigration and the entire team. It was such a pleasure working with you." Client of Pollak PLLC "I needed to convert our E2 visa to an L1 and L2 dependent visa. Our original L1 application was denied due to a lack of evidence submitted by another attorney. The first attorney completely botched our application. This is when I found Karen Pollak and her team. I was impressed by her track record and amazing reviews from her existing and past clients. Right from the beginning, Karen had a clear idea of how to help us and what was needed. We were approved. Since the original application, Karen has helped us renew our L1 and L2 visas and apply for green cards. My family and I are now green card holders. This was our dream come true. Karen's team is very responsive, and the way they communicate is unbelievably fast and professional. Karen Pollak is hands down the best immigration lawyer I have ever had the privilege to work with." Owner, Happy Business, LLC "Moving to the US can be a challenge. Karen certainly is on top of her game. She understood exactly what was required and assisted us in making sure that we had everything that was needed before she submitted the application. Everything went smoothly, and so far, we have been living in the U.S. for just over a year now. Thanks to Karen's assistance." Entrepreneur "I am a trial lawyer, and when immigration issues come up, I have always entrusted my good friend and very respected colleague Karen Pollak and Pollak Immigration. Karen has been incredibly responsive. Everybody likes her, and she seems to have solved every one of their problems. And I could not give a higher recommendation to Karen Pollak and Pollak Immigration." Partner; Lynn, Pinker, Hurst & Schwegmann Immigration law can be incredibly complex. If you or someone you love is going to court for immigration proceedings, you need excellent legal counsel from an experienced immigration lawyer Philadelphia can offer Our knowledgeable Philadelphia immigration attorneys at Maney | Gordon | Zeller, P.A. have more than 100 years of collective legal experience to put to work for you. The lawyers at our Philadelphia immigration office are equipped with the knowledge and resources to help you meet your needs. The firm itself has been open for over 40 years, and we have 9 offices throughout the United States. At our Philadelphia immigration office, we help people throughout Pennsylvania with legal issues such as citizenship, immigrant visas, non-immigrant visas, Green Cards, and much more. Our goal is to ensure that every client understands their options and has the best possible strategy in place to achieve their immigration objectives. We recognize that successful immigration outcomes can significantly impact individuals and families, enabling them to pursue better opportunities and improve their quality of life. From the initial consultation to the final resolution, we stand by our clients at every stage of their immigration journey. More than half of those who apply for immigration certification without an attorney are denied. Make sure you have the representation you need, and retain the help of a proficient immigration lawyer. Contact us online or call (215) 922-5354 to speak with a Philadelphia immigration attorney today! Se habla español. Choose a Reliable Immigration Attorney Philadelphia Trusts Don't hesitate to call Maney | Gordon | Zeller, P.A. The practiced attorneys at our firm have been AV® Rated by Martindale Hubbell®, one of the most well-respected information service companies for legal professionals. If you or a loved one needs help with immigration law, call us today. We provide high-quality service to those in need of assistance. Contact Maney | Gordon | Zeller, P.A. online to schedule a consultation. Se habla Español. Our commitment goes beyond providing legal representation; we aim to offer clear communication and personalized strategies, ensuring each client feels understood and valued. Understanding the emotional and financial stakes involved, our team works diligently to provide counsel that is both compassionate and effective. Our clients can be assured of our relentless commitment to their cases, backed by a deep understanding of the nuances of immigration laws and policies. Philadelphia Office 1315 Walnut Street, Suite 700 Philadelphia, PA 19107 Phone: (215) 922-5354 Hours: Mon-Fri, 8:30am-5:30pm Map & Directions Mailing Address: P.O. Box 43559 Philadelphia, PA 19106 Comprehensive Immigration Matters We Handle At Maney | Gordon | Zeller, P.A., our immigration attorneys can help with any matters involving nationality law. Our Philadelphia immigration firm is here to help you file the necessary paperwork and ensure that your case is handled properly from start to finish. Our Philadelphia immigration attorneys can help with delays in the process and assist in moving efficiently through the systems in place. We look forward to helping you reach your dreams of being a U.S. citizen. Learn more about the matters we handle involving nationality law. Understanding the diverse needs of our clients, we offer assistance in areas such as deportation defense and waiver applications, ensuring that every client receives comprehensive support for their specific circumstances. By staying up-to-date with the latest changes in immigration policies, we strive to provide informed and strategic advice that optimizes the chances of success in each individual case. Listed below are some of the common cases we handle: Citizenship Processes Immigrants can become U.S. citizens if they either complete a process known as naturalization or if they qualify through parents who are U.S. citizens. Our attorneys can help you figure out which option might fit your case and aid your petition for either the application for naturalization (Form N-400) or the application for a certificate of citizenship (Form N-600). We can also help you complete all other necessary steps. Navigating the pathway to citizenship often involves understanding complex requirements, including residency obligations and demonstrating an attachment to the principles of the Constitution. Our team is dedicated to simplifying this journey for our clients, providing detailed guidance at every stage and addressing any challenges that may arise. Understanding Visa Types & Applications There are many different types of immigrant visas that people might be eligible for. Our immigration attorneys help people apply for visas when they are fiancés, employees who have been offered jobs in the United States, families of employees, and other individuals. In order to qualify for a visa, a U.S. citizen must sponsor you. Visas also only allow you to stay for a predetermined period of time, after which you can petition for an extension. To learn more about immigrant and non-immigrant visas, call us today. Additionally, our team can assist with understanding the nuances of specialized visas such as student visas, cultural exchange visas, and investor visas, ensuring applicants meet the specific criteria required for these categories. We aim to demystify the visa application process, helping clients prepare comprehensive applications that enhance their chances of approval. Learn More about Visas Securing Green Cards & Permanent Residency A Green Card gives an immigrant permanent resident status. In order to qualify, however, you must either have family in the United States, be employed in the country, be a refugee or applicant for asylum, or be a person who "wins" a Green Card in a lottery. Green Card holders have many of the same rights and privileges as U.S. citizens do. Securing a Green Card involves several critical steps, from filing petitions to attending interviews, and can be influenced by factors like priority dates and country-specific quotas. Our firm offers in-depth counsel on adjusting status and strategic planning for those seeking a long-term stay in the United States. Visiting the United States: What You Need to Know If you just want to visit the United States, you will need to file for a non-immigrant visa. Different visas meet specific needs, such as visas for tourism, study abroad programs, and foreign business investors. Applying for a visitor visa involves meeting various eligibility requirements, such as proving financial stability and intent to return to your home country. Our attorneys provide vital assistance in preparing and submitting comprehensive visa applications, reducing the risk of denial and ensuring compliance with all requirements during your stay. Pathways to Naturalization One of the ways a person becomes a U.S. citizen is through naturalization. In order to apply for this, you must follow the rules set forth in the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA). To begin the process, you will have to fill out and submit Form N-400, the application for naturalization. After filing, you will have to pass a naturalization test. You might be able to qualify for citizenship by naturalization if you have been a permanent resident for at least five years, are able to read, write, and speak English, and meet other requirements that can be explained by a Philadelphia immigration lawyer at our firm. Each naturalization journey is unique, often requiring personalized advice and comprehensive preparation for interviews and tests. We offer workshops, resources, and personal consultation sessions to prepare applicants for each stage of the process. Philadelphia Immigration FAQs What Are Common Immigration Issues Faced in Philadelphia? Immigrants in Philadelphia face a variety of challenges that can affect their integration and quality of life. Common issues include navigating complex legal procedures, such as applying for visas or adjusting immigration status, and overcoming language barriers. Additionally, securing employment can be difficult due to credential recognition barriers or the need for work authorization. Housing is another critical concern, as finding affordable accommodation in a competitive market can prove challenging. Our legal team not only assists with these immigration-related issues but also provides referrals to local resources that can aid in overcoming these hurdles, helping immigrants to integrate successfully into the community. How Can I Become a U.S. Citizen in Philadelphia? Becoming a U.S. citizen in Philadelphia involves going through the naturalization process, which is the same nationwide but can be particularly engaging within this community-focused city. Eligible individuals must first be permanent residents for at least five years, demonstrate proficiency in English, and have a basic understanding of U.S. history and government. The application involves several steps including filing Form N-400, undergoing a background check, and passing an interview and civics test. Our attorneys assist clients at every stage of this process, from the initial assessment of eligibility to preparing for the test and interview, ensuring a well-supported journey towards U.S. citizenship. How Do Philadelphia's Immigration Policies Impact Applicants? Philadelphia's immigration policies are shaped by both federal and local legislation, impacting how immigrants interact with authorities and access services. The city is known for its immigrant-friendly stance, often advocating for policies that promote inclusivity and protection of immigrant rights. However, applicants must also adhere to federal laws and requirements which can be quite complex. Understanding these regulations is crucial for navigating processes like visa applications or applying for a Green Card. By staying informed about policy shifts at both local and federal levels, our attorneys provide strategic guidance to help clients understand their rights and responsibilities within this legislative framework. Are you or someone you love going through a complex immigration matter? Contact the Philadelphia immigration attorneys at Maney | Gordon | Zeller, P.A. at (215) 922-5354 today. At Consumer Law Group, our seasoned NV immigration attorneys are dedicated to helping you naturalize, so you can become an American citizen. Becoming a naturalized citizen can be a long and demanding process. Our team of highly trained immigration lawyers serving Las Vegas are here to join your team and help you with naturalization. Our team of immigration lawyers serving Las Vegas, NV represent clients across the nation to help anyone seeking citizenship. With a proven track record of 10 years and counting, you can rest assured that our immigration lawyers will work tirelessly on your behalf to achieve the outcome you deserve. We provide services in both English and Spanish, so you can speak with our Las Vegas immigration lawyers in a language you're comfortable with. Call Upon Our Experienced Criminal Defense Attorneys for Help Now. We Offer Free Consultations. United States citizenship is a status that provides you with certain benefits, rights, and duties, and gives you the ability to vote and participate in jury duty in the U.S. What this means is that you can fully enjoy the freedoms and rights guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution. Some of the benefits of becoming an American citizen include: Ability to vote Priority to petition to bring family members to the U.S. Obtaining and traveling with a U.S. passport Ability to become an elected official Obtaining citizenship for children born abroad Becoming eligible for a federal job Travel abroad without limitations as to the amount of time you can be outside of the United States. However, with these benefits come a variety of responsibilities, such as: Serving the U.S. when required Supporting and defending the Constitution and laws of the U.S. Swearing allegiance to the United States Consumer Law Group's dedicated team of Las Vegas immigration lawyers are here to work on your behalf to help you enjoy the benefits and responsibilities that come with being an American citizen. No, you do not need a lawyer to apply for citizenship. However, seeking legal assistance to help you file your Application for Naturalization can ensure every component is filled out correctly. When seeking a Las Vegas immigration lawyer, it's important you find one who is authorized to provide this kind of help. At Consumer Law Group, our Las Vegas attorneys are all qualified to help you on your path to becoming a citizen. From communicating with the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) about your case to explaining the different immigration options you have, our lawyers serving NV are here for you. In some cases, you may wonder whether you need a lawyer for your citizenship interview. While not always necessary, a citizenship lawyer can help you if you are associated with certain legal issues. Before you attend your interview, our citizenship attorneys can analyze your case, whether you have something on your track record or have a disability that limits your ability to learn English, to protect your rights and explain your case to the USCIS officer. The cost of an immigration lawyer for citizenship is unique to each client and depends on a variety of factors, such as the complexity of your case, your Las Vegas lawyer's skill and experience, and the number of hours required to complete your case. At Consumer Law Group, we strive to provide affordable rates so you can get the representation you deserve. In order to become a U.S. citizen, you need to meet certain eligibility requirements. The general requirements most immigrants need to meet in order to become a naturalized citizen include: Must be 18 years of age or older when filing Form N-400 (Application for Naturalization) Must have the ability to read, write, and speak basic English Must be a person of good moral character Must take and pass the U.S. naturalization test Must be a permanent resident in the United States for at least 5 years, or 3 years if you meet all of the eligibility requirements to file as a spouse of a U.S. citizen Must demonstrate a continuous permanent residence and physical presence Must live in the U.S. or USCIS District for at least 3 months before filing Form N-400 Must demonstrate an attachment to the ideals and principles of the U.S. Constitution Must demonstrate basic knowledge of U.S. history, civic principles, and government Must take an oath of allegiance to the United States Becoming a United States citizen isn't always an easy process. Depending on your circumstances, you may have different eligibility requirements to meet. To ensure you have the best chances of becoming a naturalized citizen, speak with one of our experienced citizenship lawyers to get started on your application today. To become an American citizen, there are a few steps you need to take. The standard process of becoming a U.S. citizen goes as follows: Determine whether you are already a U.S. citizen Determine if you meet all of the eligibility requirements to become an American citizen Complete Form N-400, Application for Naturalization File Form N-400 and pay your fees Attend your biometrics appointment, if applicable Complete your citizenship interview Review your decision from USCIS on your Form N-400 Receive a notice to take the Oath of Allegiance Take the Oath of Allegiance to the United States However, there are alternate routes to becoming a U.S. citizen. In total, there are four ways you can become a U.S. citizen, with one being through naturalization. Aside from naturalization, you can become a U.S. citizen through: Marriage Parents Military At Consumer Law Group, our naturalization lawyers will work with you to determine which option is best for your situation. There are various problems you can encounter that can prevent you from becoming an American citizen. Some of the most common issues include: Owing back taxes to the IRS Marriage issues, where USCIS officials pry into your personal life to determine whether your marriage is legitimate Concerns with your moral character, such as having a criminal record or lying during the immigration application process Completing and filing your documents incorrectly To avoid these problems, reach out to our team of citizenship lawyers to ensure your best chances of becoming an American citizen. You're Not Alone. Call Upon Our Experienced Immigration Attorneys for Help Now. How Much Does It Cost to Become an American Citizen in Las Vegas? To become an American citizen, you will need to pay a \$640 filing fee. In addition to the filing fee, you may need to pay the \$85 biometric fee, bringing your total to \$725. Applicants who are 75 years of age or older are not required to pay the biometric fee. How Long Does It Take to Become a U.S. Citizen in Las Vegas? The time it takes to become a U.S. citizen varies on a case-by-case basis. However, in most cases, it can take anywhere between 6 months and 1 year. This is because there are multiple steps you need to complete, such as filing your Form N-400, attending your citizenship interview, passing your naturalization test, and so forth. If your citizenship request is denied, you will then have to start the process all over again. Can Your Citizenship Be Revoked? In some instances, your citizenship can be revoked through a process called denaturalization. Although rare, you can have your U.S. citizenship stripped away, and you will be deported. Some instances where your citizenship can be revoked include: Obtaining naturalization illegally Concealing material facts or having willful misrepresentation Having membership or affiliation with certain organizations, such as a terrorist organization or the Communist party What Documents Do I Need? There are three documents all citizenship applicants must send with their N-400 application: Photocopy of both sides of your Permanent Resident Card Check, money order, or credit card for the application and biometric services fee Two identical color photographs with your name and Alien Registration Number written lightly on the back of each photo if you reside outside of the U.S. In addition to these documents, you may need to submit other pieces of paperwork, such as in these situations: If an attorney or accredited representative acts on your behalf, you must send a completed original Form G28 If you are applying for naturalization on the basis of marriage to a U.S. citizen, you must send four documents: Evidence your spouse has been a U.S. citizen for the last 3 years (e.x. birth certificate or certificate of naturalization) Current marriage certificate Proof of termination to all prior marriages of your spouse (e.x. divorce decrees or death certificates) Documents that refer to you and your spouse (e.x. tax returns, bank accounts, leases). At Consumer Law Group, our Las Vegas immigration attorneys for citizenship can help you figure out what documents you need to apply for American citizenship. Common Citizenship Test Questions To become a U.S. citizen, you must take and pass the citizenship test. The English portion of the test goes as follows: Ability to speak will be determined by the USCIS officer during your eligibility interview Ability to read will be determined by correctly reading the sentences out loud Ability to write will be determined by correctly writing out one of three sentences in addition to the English portion of the test, you must complete the civics portion, where there will be 10 out of 100 possible questions. You must answer 6 of the 10 questions correctly. While you can never predict what civics questions will be asked, some common questions include: What is the supreme law of the land? (Answer: The Constitution) What do we call the first ten amendments to the Constitution? (Answer: The Bill of Rights) Name one branch of government. (Answers: Legislative, Executive, Judicial) We elect a president for how many years? (Answer: 4 years) What is the highest court in the United States? (Answer: The Supreme Court) How old do citizens have to be to vote for President? (Answer: 18 or older) What group of people were taken to America and sold as slaves? (Answer: Africans) Who wrote the Declaration of Independence? (Answer: Thomas Jefferson) What movement tried to end racial discrimination? (Answer: Civil Rights Movement) Citizenship Assistance from a Itasca Immigration Attorney Naturalization and other immigration issues can be very complex as different rules and steps will apply to different individuals. Most immigrants already living in the United States dream of one day becoming a U.S. citizen; for many, naturalization becomes reality, allowing these individuals to go on with the full benefits of citizenship. Others find naturalization to be a challenging process and may have difficulty passing the required tests, while some find it is simply impossible due to criminal convictions. It's often a wise decision to consult with an immigration lawyer at the New York Lawyers Team before choosing to apply for citizenship, as there are risks. If you are not a citizen and have a criminal conviction, you may be barred from ever becoming a naturalized citizen and even trigger removal proceedings. Always consult with an experienced immigration lawyer if you have any criminal history before filing the naturalization application with USCIS so you will understand any risks or potential issues in advance. The Naturalization Process in Itasca Candidates for naturalization meet the following criteria: Applicants must be at least 18 years old, already a Permanent Resident with proof of residency. Applicant must demonstrate he or she has lived in the U.S. for at least 5 years prior to filing with no absences from the U.S. greater than one year, or 3 years prior to filing if Permanent Resident status was obtained through a citizen spouse. Applicant must show he or she is sympathetic to the principles in the U.S. Constitution. Applicants must speak, write, read and understand English at a basic level, although exceptions exist. Applicant must pass a civics test proving basic understanding of U.S. history and government. Applicants must show good moral character for the 3- or 5-year period prior to filing. Instances that show an applicant does not have good moral character include: habitual intoxication, gambling offenses, polygamy, immigration fraud, failing to pay child support, smuggling illegal immigrants and multiple criminal convictions. Applicant must take the oath of allegiance. "Derivation" of U.S. Citizenship "Derivation" applies to citizenship that is obtained through an action after birth, such as naturalization of a parent. The Child Citizenship Act (CCA), effective February 27, 2001, applies to adopted children and certain foreign-born natural children. A child adopted by a U.S. citizen parent is eligible for the CCA if the child satisfies the requirements applicable to adopted children under the regulations. The CCA also applies to children who are unmarried children born in wedlock and legitimated children. A foreign natural child who was born out of wedlock and has not been legitimated is eligible for derivative citizenship when the mother of such a child becomes a naturalized citizen under certain regulations. The CCA also applies to children residing in the U.S. pursuant to a lawful admission for permanent residence. Children who had previously been granted lawful permanent residence but were outside the U.S. temporarily on February 27, 2001, became citizens upon their return to the U.S. The CCA does not include children born out of wedlock who have not been legitimated, since they are not included in the definition of "child." The CCA only requires one (1) U.S. citizen parent to confer automatic citizenship. The naturalization of a single foreign national parent, regardless of his or her marital status or the immigration status of the other parent is sufficient for a child to be eligible for citizenship under the CCA.** NOTE: Provided that all other statutory requirements are met, a child whose paternity has not been established by legitimation before the age of 16 may derive citizenship through the mother. Remember that the age for legitimation has varied over the years from 16, 18, or 21 depending on the period and statute in effect. Contact a Itasca immigration attorney today! The New York Lawyers Team may be able to help you through the naturalization process, as qualifying for citizenship is far from easy. Candidates are required to meet several requirements, many of which depend on personal circumstances. If you have applied for citizenship in the past and failed to pass the naturalization test, contact the New York Lawyers Team today to speak with an immigration lawyer for advice about how you should proceed. The naturalization process is complex, and it is important to trust experienced immigration lawyers in Salt Lake City to guide you through the entire process. At Monument Immigration, our award-winning Utah immigration attorneys have been helping immigrants for 10 years. We understand the current laws and regulations, and work diligently to provide honest and efficient service for our clients. Our Salt Lake City naturalization lawyer will help you with every step of the application process including gathering the necessary documents and filing your application correctly. We can discuss your individual needs and create a tailored plan to expedite the naturalization process. Our attorneys are knowledgeable in all areas of immigration law including marriage visas, family-based petitions, DACA applications and more. We strive to take on each case with personal attention and care to ensure that you get the outcome that you desire. No matter your situation or goals, Monument Immigration is here to support you in achieving your American dream. Free Phone Consultations with Immigration Lawyers Near You Our immigration lawyers near Salt Lake City offer free phone consultations and are open to all forms of payment—in fact, if you pay up-front, we'll take 10% off. We want to help as many people safely and legally settle in the United States as possible, which is why we provide accessibility to potential clients. We offer services in both English and Spanish so you can communicate in the language you're most comfortable in. Finally, because we want to make this process as quick as possible, we strive to submit your application within 48 hours of receiving the required documentation. If you're ready to stop losing sleep over your application, contact our Utah immigration Lawyer in Salt Lake City today. Don't wait—contact or call our immigration law office in Utah today at (801) 609-3659 for a free consultation with immigration lawyers near you.